



THE KAHOK CURRENT

Volume 10, Issue 1

First Quarter

Welcome to the 2016-2017 School Year!

Collinsville High School

“The High School of Champions”

Inside this issue:

Homecoming 2016	2
Conferences	2
Kahok Fine Arts	2
State Testing	3
Outstanding Kahoks	3
Kahok Sports Update	3
Guidance Dept.	6

Welcome to Collinsville High School for the 2016-2017 school year. I hope everyone enjoyed a great summer and looks forward to an exceptional school year at CHS. I am excited by the expectation that our students and staff will build on the positive happenings we experienced last school year. I would like to share a few highlights from last year with you.

Academically, our students excelled as evidenced by a school record \$4.2 million in scholarship awards allocated to our Class of 2016 graduates. They definitely set the bar high for our current students. Last school year our students made an imprint regionally and throughout the state. For example, CHS students placed in state competitions in the areas of business, math, science, and social studies. Vocational students earned state recognition in a variety of areas. Our English Department produced writing contest winners at SIU-E and through Barnes and Noble. The Social Studies Department was instrumental in CHS being designated a New Democracy School. Our foreign language students excelled in competitions at SIU-C and one student earned a perfect score on the National Latin Exam. The list of academic achievements goes on and on! The bottom line is Kahok students are being challenged academi-

cally on a daily basis and performing exceptionally well under the guidance of our caring and talented faculty. Several staff members were recognized at the county, state, and national level. CHS is a school of academic opportunity and excellence.

Kahok students made a difference in the community through charitable endeavors and leadership opportunities. For instance, our Health Occupations Students of America students led the most successful blood drive in school history. Our KahokStrong organization and Key Club supported numerous families in need of assistance. Our student council was recognized as a Gold Council of Excellence for the eleventh consecutive year. A Kahok served on the Student Board of Directors at the St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank. The bottom line is CHS students engage in numerous philanthropic and leadership opportunities outside of the traditional classroom setting. CHS is a school of opportunity and excellence.

Kahok students also excelled in extracurricular activities. Our marching band performed at the Outback Bowl in Tampa, Florida. Our concert band was selected to perform at the Illinois Music Educators Association Conference and

University of Illinois Super-State. We had three All-State performers and one student was selected for the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. Our dance team advanced to the IHSA State Championships for the third consecutive year. Art students earned recognition at contests and our school musical performed for record audiences. Our SWC Champion girls' soccer team was the IHSA State Runner-Up while our boys' soccer team earned a SWC Championship. The girls' and boys' bowling teams each placed 11th in the IHSA Tournament. We had All-State performers in soccer and bowling. The bottom line is Kahoks are competing at a high level outside of the classroom also. CHS is a school of opportunity and excellence.

In closing, I am certain you can see why I AM PROUD TO BE A KAHOK! I am sure our students will add to this impressive list of accomplishments during the 2016-2017 school year. Moreover, I am hopeful that each student will take ownership in preparing for his or her future. Please feel free to contact me at 618-346-6320 or dsnyder@kahoks.org if I can be of assistance. Go Kahoks!

Sincerely,
David G. Snider
Principal



Important Procedure Reminders

Collinsville High School has adopted procedures you and your child may want to familiarize yourself with as the school year begins:

REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES: To report your child absent, you must call the school at 346-6320 and push 3. Messages may be left 24 hours a day. Please be sure to call your child in by 10am at the very latest. If a call is not received by 10:00 a.m. a parental note must be given to the Attendance Office within five days upon the child's return.

STUDENTS ARRIVING LATE TO SCHOOL: All students arriving late must report the Book Room by 8:05am to sign the Late Arrival Sheet. Parents

should notify the school via telephone if they know their child will be arriving late.

REQUESTING AN EARLY DISMISSAL: Students must have parental permission to leave campus. Parents, please call in advance to request the early dismissal. In the event that it is a last minute issue, please send your child to the Attendance Office in the morning with written permission for the early dismissal. Once an administrator grants permission to leave, your child will be issued a pass to leave campus.

*The determination of an excused or unexcused absence/tardy is based upon the reason and ad-

ministrative approval.

DRESS CODE:

Before your child leaves for school please be sure that he/she is dressed appropriately for school. Students not dressed according to the dress code will be sent home to change clothes. For additional school policies, please refer to the CHS Handbook.

ENTERING CHS:

In order to enter Collinsville High School as a visitor you must use the single point entry doors for security purposes. You must also have a valid picture ID to enter Collinsville High School and will have to present the ID at the window before being buzzed into the building. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter that will help ensure the safety of our campus.

Collinsville Homecoming 2016 "Illuminate The Night"

Homecoming 2016 is set and ready to go! This year's theme is "Illuminate The Night." Mark your calendars for Monday, September 19 through Saturday, September 24. Some highlights and dress-up days of the week include:

Monday, September 19: PJ Party Day: Come dressed in your favorite PJ's, robe, slippers and don't forget your blanket and teddy bear!

Tuesday, September 20: Class Color Day: Seniors wear purple, juniors blue, sophomores red and freshmen green. Class Clash will take place immediately after school in the commons area behind the school.

Wednesday, September 21: Duo

Day/Hero Day- Get a partner and come dressed as a DUO(real or imaginary) or as your favorite HERO. Also, the annual Mr. Homecoming Contest will take place at 7:00pm sharp in the auditorium.

Thursday, September 22: Luau Day- Break out your best tropical attire and join us for Luau Day! Flip flops, swim trunks, leis and sunglasses will be everywhere! (Dress appropriately for school)

Friday, September 23: Come dressed in your purple and white best! The pep assembly will also take place 7th hour. The tailgate party will begin at 6:00pm in the AVC parking lot. Please join us for free food before the game and the first 500 people will get a purple Kahok

Homecoming Game surprise! The Homecoming football game kicks off at 7:00pm.

Saturday, September 24: The annual Homecoming Dance will take place in Fletcher Gymnasium starting at 7:00pm and the coronation will start at 9:30pm. This is a semi-formal event.

Please join in all the fun for this year's Homecoming festivities. We guarantee a great time will be had by all!



Parent Teacher Conference Dates Set



Research has shown that parental involvement is the most important factor in a student's success in school. For many parents, that involvement begins at parent-teacher conferences. Our parent-teacher conferences will be held on October 27 and 28, 2016.

Both parents and teachers know that regular and honest communication is essential to student success. The most important strategy for parent-teacher conferences is to be prepared. The following questions may help you to

identify topics to discuss during the conference:

*What general questions do you have about classroom curriculum, standards, evaluation techniques, or procedures?

*What specific concerns do you have about your child's academic progress or behavior?

*What questions or concerns does your child have about school?

*What do you want the teacher to

know about your child?

*What help can you offer the teacher?

We at CHS also encourage you to be a Skyward parent. Please log-in and become a user of this program that allows you 24 hour access to your child's grades in all of his or her classes. Please contact Christopher Oatman at 618-346-6350 ext. 4286 or coatman@cusd.kahoks.org if you need assistance accessing your account.



Collinsville High School Band Update

This year's CHS Marching Band field show is entitled "Hello...Goodbye." The Band will perform at all home football games. The Marching Kahoks will also be performing in the following competitions: O'Fallon Township High School Metro East Marching Classic, McKendree

Preview of Champions, Mizzou Champion of Champions, Bands of America St. Louis Super Regional and the Belleville East Marching Lancers Invitational. We will also be hosting our own Gateway Marching Classic this year in Kahok Stadium on October 8th.

The concert bands will also be performing their usual concerts. They all begin at 7:00pm. First semester concerts are:

October 13 - Fall Concert - CHS Auditorium

December 15 - Holiday Concert - CHS Auditorium

-Bobby Wright, Band Director

Collinsville High School's Test Scores

Last year CHS went through a transition period in which not all Juniors were required to take the ACT due to the lack of a state budget. Juniors that did take the ACT helped raise our average composite score from 19.5 to 19.7. Incentives were offered to cur-

rent Seniors who did complete the test during the 2015-2016 school year. CHS had 124 students that qualified for the tier 2 incentives. These students received a score of 21 or above composite score on the ACT. 27 students qualified for the tier 1 incen-

tives by scoring a 28 or above composite score on the ACT. We are very proud of these students for their hard work and achievement. Based on the new state law, CHS will now transition to offer the SAT test this school year for the first time.



Collinsville Choir and Theatre to Perform



The Collinsville Fine Arts Department would like to invite all Kahoks to enjoy one of the many programs we have scheduled for first semester. These programs include:

*October 6th - Fall Choir Concert in the CHS auditorium at 7:00 p.m. - FREE to the public

*October 10th - IMEA auditions for selected Concert and Mixed Choir members

*November 3rd - Unit 10 Choral Festival (DIS, CMS, and CHS choirs combined) in Fletcher Gymnasium - 6:30 concert is FREE to the public

*December 1st, 2nd, and 3rd: - Winter Musical "Charles Dicken's A Christmas Carol" in the CHS auditorium at 7:00 p.m. presented by the CHS Theater and Choral Departments. Tickets available at the door. \$5 You WON'T want to miss this!

Choir concerts have FREE admission EXCEPT the Winter Musical which has tickets available at the door. Choir concerts feature the three choir classes taught during school - Concert Choir, Treble Choir, and K-Sync - our show choir - Kahok Sound - and often include soloists or small ensembles.

-Lisa Cleveland, Choral Director

-Rosemary Dodson, Theatre Director

Kahoks Fall Sports Update



Collinsville High School athletics will have teams in the following

sports this semester:

Boys Sports: Football, Cross Country, Golf, and Soccer



Girls Sports: Cheer, Cross Country, Dance, Golf, Tennis, and Volleyball

*All Kahok sports have a fee of \$75 dollars and require a valid physical to try out for the team.

*Parents and Fans are encouraged to check out the CHS athletics website:

<http://il.8to18.com/Collinsville>

This site has the entire athletic calendar for all Kahok sports teams.

*The Fall Sports Award night will be held on Wednesday, November 2nd, 2016 at 7 pm in Fletcher Gymnasium on the campus of Collinsville High School. All parents, athletes, and fans are welcome to attend.



Erin's Law Presentation



During Study Halls on Tuesday, October 4, 2016, Kahok Talk, CHS's Video Production Class, will air a special 15 minute episode on Erin's Law. Erin's Law is a sexual assault education program signed into law by Governor Quinn in January, 2013. The law requires age appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education in grades PK-12 along with the training for school staff on the prevention of sexual abuse.

Erin's Law is named after childhood sexual assault survivor, author, speaker and activist Erin Merryn. Erin shares on her website, <http://www.erinmerryn.net/erins-law.html>, that through her education, she was educated on what to do in case of a tornado, fire, or bus evacuation, but was never taught what to do to keep herself safe from sexual abuse/assault. It is her mission to have a bill passed in all fifty states. Illinois is one of 27 states that

have already passed the law. Kahok Talk's episode will cover the following topics: What Erin's Law is, Erin's story, statistics about sexual abuse/assault, ways people can protect themselves, and where to go for help.

Unfortunately, sexual abuse and assault are a reality for many young people. Statistics show that 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys will be victims of sexual assault by their 18th birthday and approximately 2/3 of assaults are committed by someone known by the victim ([www. http://www.erinmerryn.net/erins-law.html](http://www.erinmerryn.net/erins-law.html)). The websites listed below give some information about ways to try to prevent sexual abuse/assault, warning signs of sexual abuse/assault and what to do if someone you know becomes a victim of sexual abuse/assault.

Parent Tips for Preventing and Identifying Child Sexual Abuse:

(American Academy of Pediatrics)

5 Tips to Protect Your Child from Sexual Abuse

(RAINN – Rape, Abuse, Incest National Network)

<https://www.rainn.org/protect-your-children>

Call For Help Sexual Assault Victims Care Unit

<http://callforhelpinc.org/our-services/sexual-assault-victims-care-unit/>

618-397-0975

If you have questions or concerns about the video that will be shown or do not want your student to view the video, please contact Kristin Trapp, CHS Social Worker at ktrapp@cusd.kahoks.org (with Erin's law in the subject line) or 618-346-6320, ext. 1169 by 12:00 on Friday, September 30, 2016.

-Ms. Kristin Trapp

CHS Social Worker

Math Tutoring Available During Study Halls

The Math Department of Collinsville High School has been working to provide all students with the chance to receive extra enrichment and help with their math courses.

If your child is struggling or needs a little extra help with their math, he or she can take advantage of the tutoring sessions available during the school day. Tutoring is offered during all

study halls. If your child's study hall is during 3a, he or she can see Mr. Nowak in room 100. 4a study hall students can see Mr. Glynn in room 312. 4b tutoring is available from Ms. Schmidt in room 103. 5a tutoring is provided by Mr. Liljegren in room 106. Mr. Warnecke tutors during 5b in room 104. Passes can be obtained from any math teacher to be a part of the tutoring program.

Also, tutoring is available every Tuesday and Thursday from 3pm to 4pm in the library.

This is a great resource for students who need extra help in math and our tutors are waiting to help your child any way they can. So please encourage your child to take advantage of this great opportunity!





Stress The Importance of School Attendance

Imagine that the school called today to let you know that your teen skipped math class. Taking immediate action is critical:

- **Don't ignore the problem.** Research shows a strong link between attendance and grades. Let your teen know you expect him/her to go to class—and you'll be checking to see that he/she does.
- **Talk about why your teen is**

missing class. One reason teens cut class is that they are falling behind. If your teen doesn't understand material, the solution is not to skip the class. Work with his teacher to see how he can get extra help.

- **Help him or her see the link.** Teens don't always connect what they're learning in class to the big picture. Show him/her how math (or any other subject) will help

him/her in their life and career later on.

Source: "Student Attendance: Research and Strategies" Education Partnerships, Inc., <http://www.educationpartnerships.org/pdfs/Attendance.pdf>



Building Tomorrow's Leaders

When we think of leaders, people such as Mahatma Gandhi, Winston Churchill, Colin Powell and Abraham Lincoln often come to mind. These leaders, while all vastly different people, shared qualities such as empathy, trustworthiness, fairness, cooperation, a sense of responsibility, citizenship and valuing the significant contributions of each person. Obviously not everyone is cut out to be a leader, but if you teach your children to lead and give them opportunities to lead others, the results can be amazing.

The keys to nurturing leadership qualities in your children are raising them in an environment of consistency, creativity and modeling. Consistency helps them learn to trust others as well gain confidence. As children test their environment under their parents' watchful eyes, they gain positive self-esteem and a sense of right and wrong, which are the basis for a sense of justice and fairness. Creativity fosters awareness as new experiences open your children's eyes to different ways of doing things. And modeling is also of paramount importance. You, as the parent, are your children's most important role models in developing leadership traits. By serving the community, showing empathy for others and living responsibly, parents can mold their children's behaviors.

Parents can begin teaching responsibility at home by providing enrichment that fosters broad interests, self-esteem, insights and skills that characterize leaders. Leadership and teambuilding experiences help children identify their strengths and weaknesses and build on social, emotional and behavioral development assets. Teaching responsibility carries over into all aspects of their lives and becomes the foundation for turning our children into citizens able to meet present and future challenges in a global society. A wide variety of opportunities helps students learn and practice essential leadership skills within a learning community. As they see that they have more control of their own lives, community involvement becomes more important and they can envision being an effective leader.

By supporting your children and encouraging them to try out a wide variety of activities, you'll widen their scope. The schools themselves provide everything from sports to science clubs, chess to cheerleading. Scouts and other service organization incorporate leadership and character building into all their activities. Religious groups also focus on character building, with a strong belief system and moral teachings. However, parents need to evaluate youth organizations and seek groups that are student-led rather than adult-driven. Young people tend to lose interest in an organization quickly when group decision-making and mission are not student-centered. These organizations should also give student leaders the chance to show off their capabilities and be taken seriously. Group planning that is inclusive and diverse strengthens youth leaders. Student leaders find greater purpose in advocacy, policy-making and service when their needs are met.

By giving children a role in decision-making at an early age, parents foster the critical thinking skills necessary to be an effective leader. Encourage your kids to evaluate inappropriate decisions and offer other options. To encourage independent thinking, discussion and debate about current events nurture leadership potential. Listen openly and thoughtfully to your children's thoughts and ideas, and you'll foster mutual respect, objectivity, empathy and understanding.

Not all students are leaders in a traditional sense, such as being the football team captain or organizing proms. However, these children can still exhibit unique leadership abilities. At-risk student leaders characteristically have a great influence on their peers, resolve conflicts without fighting and make decisions about their personal lives. These students need to connect how being a leader will improve their lives and help them to find meaning. When they are included in problem-solving and their opinions are valued, children will make better choices.

Your child's school counselor can help you come up with community resources and school-based experiences that will enrich your child's leadership potential. Children respond well to leadership experiences in the community, such as restoring parks, helping to prepare meals for those in need, painting murals to beautify the school grounds and organizing after-school sports leagues. By creating a caring, respectful and encouraging environment, parents and schools can turn today's children into tomorrow's leaders. *by Brenda Melton, M. Ed., LPC* <http://www.schoolcounselor.org/magazine/blogs/november-december-2006/building-tomorrow-s-leaders>



Dear Parent,

As we enter the start of a new school year, I want to introduce you to a new on-campus advocate called SkoolLive. SkoolLive is an innovative direct digital kiosk system that enhances school-to-student communication at Collinsville High School. The interactive technology is first of its kind in the country, and we are fortunate to have them as a partner for the upcoming school year.

SkoolLive assists schools across the nation to move forward into the digital landscape and communicate with students in a way they understand, all at zero cost to the school. For the 2016/17 school year, Collinsville High School together with SkoolLive hopes to raise money in support of current and future programs for our students and our campus.

In partnership with the school district and SkoolLive, we have developed opportunities for parents, family and friends to not only support the school financially, but also to cultivate a fun, positive and engaging campus environment for students. The first phase of these opportunities is the SkoolLive "Student Shout-out":

SkoolLive "Student Shout-out" – Create a memorable school year with a 5-day digital banner on all campus kiosks for your son or daughter. With the ability to generate unique messages tailored exclusively to your loved ones on-campus, SkoolLive now gives you access to speak with them directly all year round. From a simple Happy Birthday shout-out to congratulating someone special on a personal achievement, pre-game encouragement or post game celebration messages, wish a family well with upcoming exams or tell your child how proud you are for graduating the school year. The "Student Shout-out" gives family and friends the opportunity to send a unique message on campus that will create a memory for a lifetime.

This is a great, no-cost partnership for our school with a team of campus advocates whose focus is to mobilize the local community to support our school. As a local school we strongly believe in the local community and we would love your support in partnering together to ensure our students receive every opportunity for a fulfilled school experience.

We encourage you to mention this opportunity to your friends, neighbors and local businesses to support Collinsville High School students. We look forward to hearing from you and would appreciate you sharing the following contact information to those interested in partnering with the school so the SkoolLive advocates can follow up today.

Student Shout-out : studentshoutout@skoollive.com

School Supporter for Business Ads: schoolsupporter@skoollive.com

Or call SkoolLive on 858-435-7700.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to working with you!

Sincerely,

David Snider

Principal-Collinsville High School

CAVC and Local Business—A Productive Partnership

Throughout the year there have been many local businesses that have hired CAVC graduates or supported CAVC programs. We just wanted to take some time to thank them for their continued support. The following list is just a few of our supporters:

Advanced Pattern Works	Gateway Auto Pro's	Monsanto
Anheuser Busch	Green Home Solutions	Operator Union
Arnette Pattern	Hunington Chase Homes	Patriot Sun Rooms
Bachman Machine	Hydromat	Raukman Utility Products
Boeing	IBEW	Roller machine
Carpentry Union	Illinois Electric Works	Seiler Instrument
Chellar Tool and Die	Kelso Auto Body	Seyer Aerospace
Eaton	Troy Truck Centers	Steve's Auto Body
Edwards Restore	Kupferly Foundry	The Fountains
Ehrhardt tool and Die	Laura Buick	Throm Construction
Embrecht Plumbing	Lendow Contracting	U Pick A Part
Fulton Iron	Martin Glass Co	

Dual Credit Saves Families Thousands

One of the many benefits of CAVC courses is the opportunity to earn dual credit. Dual credit is when a student takes a class in their regular school which is aligned to the curriculum of a local junior college. The student then earns credit in both their regular school and at the college. At CAVC, the number of credits can vary depending on the program. For example, Precision Machining students earn 6 college credits while in Welding students can earn 8 college credits. With average costs of over \$100 per college credit at the junior college level, this saves families hundreds or even thousands of dollars depending on the program of choice. In the 2015-16 school year, the Collinsville Area Vocational Center had 277 different students who earned a total of 1086 college credits. This amounts to more than \$108,600 in savings for local families.

Some things to keep in mind regarding dual credit are as follows:

- Some courses require passing scores on the Compass placement exam to be eligible for credit.
- Students who do not follow through with assignments may harm their academic future by starting college on academic probation.
- Poor grades in college classes may result in a loss of financial aid.

Dual credit is a great benefit but must be taken very seriously to reap the rewards.

CAVC Preschool Openings

Starting September 13

Dancin' Dino's class T/W/Th

11:45-1:45

Cost: \$50



Call Ms. Shawn Geppert

618-346-6320 Ext. 1226
for more information

CAVC REACHES OUT AT C3

This year, the event formerly known as “First Day” was revamped into a new and exciting opportunity called C3. The C3 organizer Donna Green had a vision of businesses within the community and the City of Collinsville collaborating with local schools to celebrate the best that Collinsville and surrounding areas have to offer. In order to bring this vision to life, Ms. Green worked with the multiple representatives from the groups listed above in what turned out to be an amazing event. Luckily, CAVC was part of that incredible night.

Another change to the event was the interactivity incorporated into many of the booths. Children were given passports and encouraged to ask the participating booths career related questions to earn a stamp on their card. When the card was complete the students could turn it back in and would then be entered for the many drawings for free prizes.

Participants from CAVC included the Automotive Repair program, Auto Body Repair, Building Trades, Precision Machining, Welding, Food Service, Criminal Justice, Web and Graphic Design and Early Childhood Education. Engineering and Electronics also participated representing CAVC at the STEM table. Not only were CAVC teachers able to help families see what CAVC has to offer but they were also able to meet local business owners in fields similar to those we offer. CAVC Director Dr. Tricia Blackard said, “It was nice to see such a positive event here in our community. I was impressed by the number of people as well as the participation of so many businesses within our community. Collinsville has such incredible schools and neighborhoods. So many people just don’t realize all we have to offer.”